excessive doses of chemical fertilizers and use of insecticides and pesticides, the fertility of the soil is being depleted;

(b) what steps are being taken to arrest the process of loss of fertility of soil; and

(c) whether Government propose to encourage bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) There is no evidence to show that the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides deplete fertility of the soil, if used as per recommended doses and in as integrated manner. Results of long term experiments have shown that integrated use of chemical fertilizers, organic and biofertilizers improve the soil productivity. However, in areas where high amounts of fetilizers are being used, the deficiencies of secondary micronutrients particularly sulphur, zine and iron have started appearing which indicate imbalance in the total nutrient supply to the crops. To arrest the process of loss of soil fertility, Government is propagating integrated use of chemical fertilizers and organic manures on the basis of soil test results.

The use of recommended doses of pesticides and insecticides also do not have any ill-effect on soils. To obtain better results integrated pest management is being popularised.

(c) Government of India is encouraging the use of biofertilizers and bio-pesticides in the country. Government is providing financial support for setting up of biofertiliser production units. Training programmes for extension workers and farmers are being organised about the beneficial effects of the use of biofertilizers. Similarly, to promote integrated pest management, the training programme for farmers and extension workers are being organised extensively throughout the country. Government has set up biocontrol labs to demonstrate and promote bio-control methods of pest managment and to minimise the use of chemical pesticides.

Shortfall in Farm Produce

1264. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to news-item published in the Economic Times, dated the 24th November, 1998 captioned "Rural Farm produce to fall below target in 1998-99: NCAER";

(b) what are the causes for fall in output; and

(c) the steps proposed to ensure improvement in food production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to the floods and untimely rains in certain parts of the country, the Kharif foodgrains production for 1998-99 has been marginally affected. But, with the chances of better Rabi crops on account of favourable weather conditions, better reservoir situation, good pace of sowings and adequate availability of inputs, the prospects for overall food production during 1998-99 are brighter.

(c) In order to increase production and productivity, the Government is implementing crop specific centrally sponsored schemes/programmes under which incentives are provided to farmers for use of quality seeds and location specific hybrid varieties, application of integrated pest management, propagation of scientific water management including micro irrigation, improved farm implements etc. Besides, field demonstrations on farmers holdings including training of farmers and farm labourers are organised for effective transfer of technology. Further under the National Agenda for governance, the Government has given fresh thrust to double the food production in next ten

years adopting regionally differentiated growth strategies, creation of farming infrastructure and more efficient use of resources.

Financial help to Maharashtra

1265. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra Government has sought Centre's financial help to provide relief to farmers in the State;

(b) when a request from the State Government was received in this regard;

(c) whether financial assistance has been provided; and

(d) if not, by when it is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (d) In his letter dated 16th November, 1998 to the Prime Minister, the Chief Minister of Maharashtra has requested for an assistance of Rs. 300 crore for natural calamities that occurred during 1997-98. The State Government has also submitted a memorandum seeking Central assistance of Rs. 152 crore in the wake of heavy rains/floods during June to October, 1998. The request is under examination for suitable action.

दलहनों की प्रति-व्यक्ति उपलब्धता

1266. **श्री मनोहर कान्त ध्यानी:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) दलहनों की वर्तमान प्रति-व्यक्ति उपलब्धता कितनी है; खाद्य तथा कृषि संगठन के मानकों के अनुसार यह मात्रा आवश्यकता की तुलना में कितनी है;

(ख) क्या अगले तीन वर्षों में देश की खपत को ध्यान में रखते हुए इसके अंतर की कोई कल्पना की गई है और उस दृष्टि से बढ़ी हुई मांग को पूरा करने के लिए क्या उपचारी योजनाएं बनाई गई हैं;

(ग) क्या इस दृष्टि से, उत्तर प्रदेश में दलहनों की पैदावार बढ़ाने की कोई योजना है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण है?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सोम पाल): (क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के लिए देश में दालों की प्रति व्यक्ति उपलब्धता इस प्रकार होने का अनुमान है:—

वर्ष	प्रति व्यक्ति उपलब्धता (कि. ग्राम प्रतिवर्ष)
1996	12.0
1997	14.0
1998	12.8

भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान अनुसंधान संस्थान के संस्तुत पोषणिक मानकों के अनुसार किसी एक स्थान पर स्थायी रूप से रहने वाले व्यक्ति के लिये कम लागत वाले संतुलित आहार में दालों की आवश्यकता 40 ग्राम प्रतिदिन है जो 14.60 कि.ग्रा. प्रति वर्ष बैठती है। खाद्य और कृषि संगठन द्वारा निर्धारित दालों की न्यूनतम आवश्कता के प्रतिमानों संबंधी जानकारी उपलब्ध नहीं है।

(ख) से (घ) किसी भी समय के लिए दालों की सही-सही आवश्यकता का अनुमान लगाना कठिन है क्योंकि मांग विभिन्न कारकों पर निर्भर करती है यथा उत्पादन स्तर, अन्य विकल्पों की उपलब्धता, आय, जनसंख्या और खाने-पीने की आदतें। वैसे, कृषि जिंसों की मांग और पूर्ति के पुर्वानुमानों संबंधी कार्य दल की रिपोर्ट और नौवीं पंच वर्षीय योजना के निरुपण हेतु कृषि आंकड़ों में सुधार, के अनुसार, 2001-2002 के लिए दालों के उत्पादन की आवश्यकता, 7 प्रतिशत सकल घरेलू उत्पाद के आधार पर 19.50 मिलियन मीटरी टन तथा राष्ट्रीय पोषण संस्थान, हैदराबाद की सिफारिश अनुसार प्रतिमानिक आवश्यकता 17.20 मिलियन मीटरी टन होगी। 2001-2002 के लिये दालों का सर्वाधिक संभावित पूर्ति का पूर्वानुमान 17.50 मिलियन मीटरी टन का है। दालों का उत्पादन और उत्पादकता बढ़ाने के लिए, केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा 26 राज्यों/संघ शासित प्रदेशों में, जिनमें उत्तर प्रदेश भी शामिल है, राष्ट्रीय दलहन विकास परियोजना नामक एक केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजना कार्यान्वित की जा रही है।

इस योजना में प्रमाणित बीजों, बीज मिनिकिटों,